

## Message Text

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DRAFTED BY: DHEW/ASH/OIH: LVOGEL

APPROVED BY: SCI: MSBEAUBIEN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 136360

FOR DR. HERMAN CHINN

EO11652 NA

TAGS: TPHY, OSCI, TBIO, IS

SUBJ: DHEW/PHS-TRAVEL MR. JOSEPH EICHENHOLZ

1. MR. JOSEPH EICHENHOLZ, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR HEALTH PLANNING AND EVALUATION, WILL BE IN ISRAEL JULY 9 TO 29. DHEW WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE WITH THIS VISIT.

2. THE GENERAL PURPOSE OF MR. EICHENHOLZ'S VISIT IS TO OBTAIN A BETTER PERSPECTIVE OF HOW THE HEALTH SYSTEM OPERATES (PARTICULARLY IN REGARD TO HEALTH INSURANCE) THEREBY ENHANCING ANALYTICAL EFFORTS WITHIN DHEW IN DEVELOPING OPERATIONAL SYSTEMS TO IMPLEMENT NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE IN THIS COUNTRY. THE OFFICE OF HEALTH PLANNING AND EVALUATION IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PRESIDENT'S PROPOSAL FOR NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE. SINCE THE INTRODUCTION OF THAT PROPOSAL TO CONGRESS, THE OFFICE HAS BEEN DEVOTING MUCH EFFORT TO THE ANALYSIS OF ISSUES RELATED TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE PLANS--THE SYSTEMS BY WHICH HOSPITALS WOULD SET THEIR BUDGETS, ESTABLISH CHARGES, ATTEMPT TO CONTROL THEIR COSTS, AND RECEIVE PAYMENT FROM INSURANCE COMPANIES.

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3. MR. EICHENHOLZ HAS WRITTEN TO MR. UZZI BLOCH OF HISTADRUT (NEW YORK) ASKING FOR HIS ASSISTANCE IN SETTING UP APPOINTMENTS AT KUPAT CHOLIM IN TEL AVIV ON JULY 10 THRU 14. HE HAS ALSO INDICATED AN INTEREST IN VISITING REPRESENTATIVE HOSPITALS AND CLINICS IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE COUNTRY. HE WILL BE IN HAIFA JULY 15-18 AND COULD VISIT FACILITIES IN THAT AREA. THE REMAINDER OF THIS STAY WILL BE IN JERUSALEM (JULY 18-28) WHERE HE WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR ADDITIONAL MEETINGS.

4. DHEW WOULD APPRECIATE SCIATT'S CONTACTING DR. NEVAT OR OTHER APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS AT KUPAT HOLIM TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER THEY KNOW OF MR. EICHENHOLZ'S PLANS. IF THEY DO NOT, WOULD APPRECIATE SCIATT'S ARRANGING APPOINTMENTS FOR HIM. EICHENHOLZ ALSO INTERESTED MEETING WITH HEALTH MINISTRY OFFICIALS. WOULD APPRECIATE SCIATT'S COORDINATING MOH AND KUPAT CHOLIM MEETINGS. EMBASSY SUGGESTIONS FOR VISITS VARIOUS HEALTH FACILITIES IN ISRAEL DESIRED.

5. MR. EICHENHOLZ WILL CONTACT DR. CHINN AT EMBASSY ON ARRIVAL IN ISRAEL TO DISCUSS DETAILED PLANS. IN THE MEANTIME, WOULD APPRECIATE CABLED RESPONSE.

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